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Report of the Economic and Social Council

Yemen:* draft resolution

Extension of the transition period preceding graduation of Samoa from least developed country status

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 62/97 of 17 December 2007,

Reaffirming its commitment to the process of graduation from least developed country status and to encouraging smooth transition measures for graduating countries,

Giving due consideration to the unprecedented human and material losses which Samoa suffered as a result of the Pacific Ocean tsunami of 29 September 2009, and to the severe disruption this natural disaster caused to the socio-economic progress the nation had, for several years, been demonstrating,

Inviting the international community to further support the rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction efforts undertaken by the Government of Samoa in a context of special difficulties owing to the impact of the global economic crisis,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the consequences for Samoa of the Pacific Ocean tsunami of 29 September 2009;

2. *Decides* to extend by a period of three years, until 1 January 2014, the transition period Samoa is presently benefiting from, until 16 December 2010, before graduation from least developed country status takes place;

3. *Underlines* the exceptional nature of this decision, taken in the context of the unique disruption caused to Samoa by the tsunami.

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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